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# Genealogy Notes from Emily, June 2012

Maine State Library

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# Maine State Library

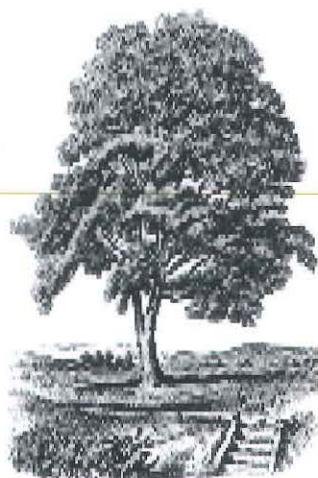
## Office of Reader and Information Services

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#### Websites

MSL Genealogy -  
[www.maine.gov/msl/services/genealogy/](http://www.maine.gov/msl/services/genealogy/)

Vital Records Researcher Card - [www.maine.gov/dhhs/forms.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/forms.shtml)

MSL Classes -  
[www.maine.gov/msl/services/classes](http://www.maine.gov/msl/services/classes)

Maine Genealogical Society -  
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~megs/index.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~megs/index.html)

Maine State Library  
64 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Hours  
Mon, Wed & Thu: 9-6  
Tue: 9-7  
Fri: 9-5  
Sat: 9-2

Tel. 207-287-5600  
[www.maine.gov/msl/](http://www.maine.gov/msl/)



## It's Cemetery Season! The Gates Are Down and the Flowers Are Up!

Memorial Day and Flag Day have come and gone, but it's really never too late to pay our respects to our ancestors. A great many have yet to be discovered in cemeteries; but, take heart, there are a lot of resources to help!

The State Library is very fortunate to have the records of the Maine Old Cemetery Association, in print and on CD. They are arranged by county, town and cemetery. Burial places can be found by name using the master index on microfilm (also called the Surname Index Project), and on CD. Just ask at the Reference Desk!

M.O.C.A. has also placed its stamp of approval on Mark Cheetham's Maine Cemetery Trampers' Companion. This is a great guide to have with you when a definition of strange initials is needed, or you're wondering about a symbol.

There's a historic timeline by year for checking on town incorporations, wars, national events and important people, disasters and health issues-up until 2005!



Another excellent title to refer to is Sharon DeBartolo Carmack's Your Guide to Cemetery Research. She discusses death records, how to find graveyards, recording tomb-

stones, epitaphs, burial customs, and involving the whole family in your cemetery search. She even suggests having a picnic in a cemetery!

More academic studies are available, such as Douglas Keister's Stories in Stone-a Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography, and The American Resting Place-Four Hundred Years of History Through Our Cemeteries and Burial Grounds, by Marilyn Yalom. Fascination with all those who have gone before us remains a part of our humanity. Gravestones (or "sepulchral monuments" as named in the library card catalog) can reveal a lot about the person and the family they left behind. All across the country you will find every possible type of monument, from a car carved in granite to a simple wooden slab stating "Ma Dyed". Let us always remember, no matter how!

## Maine's 1940 Census Indexed in Ancestry.com

Yes, it's here! Maine's 1940 Census data may be found, by personal name, in Ancestry.com! If you're interested in doing some indexing, the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project is still looking for volunteers.

Check out their progress at: <https://the1940census.com/resources/1940-census-state-progress/>. FamilySearch offers some good general information on the year 1940, including enumerators' ques-

tions, and a link called "1940 Census Research Assistance", which includes articles and online courses. Be sure to take a look at the National Archives, <http://1940census.archives.gov>, for guidance as well!